

What is claimed is:

1. A bone fixation apparatus, comprising:
5 an intermedullary nail having a longitudinal axis and a proximal tip;
a blade having a second longitudinal axis, said blade defining a recess
extending in substantial parallel alignment with said second longitudinal axis, said
recess configured to receive said proximal tip; and locking member to interconnect
said tip and said blade.
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2. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said recess is at least partially enclosed.
3. The apparatus of claim 2, wherein said recess is enclosed on three sides
and open on a fourth side.
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4. The apparatus of claim 3, wherein said recess extends along the second
longitudinal axis over at least half of the length of the blade.
5. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said blade further includes an aperture in
20 communication with said recess, said aperture adapted to receive a fastening
member configured for engagement with said tip.
6. The apparatus of claim 5, wherein said aperture is a slot.
- 25 7. A method of stabilizing long bone fractures, comprising:
providing an elongate fixation member and a transverse stabilizer having a
recess for receiving at least a portion of the elongate fixation member;
obtaining access to the intermedullary canal of a long bone;
positioning the elongate fixation member in the intermedullary canal;
30 aligning the recess of the transverse stabilizer with the tip of the elongate
fixation member;

driving the transverse stabilizer in a direction substantially transverse to the longitudinal axis of the elongate fixation member to thereby position at least a portion of the elongate fixation member within the recess of the transverse stabilizer; and

5 interconnecting the elongate fixation member and the transverse stabilizer.

8. The method of claim 7, wherein said driving includes impacting a portion of the transverse stabilizer.

10 9. The method of claim 8, wherein said driving results in sliding engagement between the recess and the elongate member.

10. A reaming head, comprising:

15 a body having a longitudinal axis and an outer surface defining a longitudinally extending substantially cylindrical configuration extending over a majority of the circumference of said outer surface and a truncated surface interrupting said substantially cylindrical configuration; a cutting element positioned in said truncated surface.

20 11. The reaming head of claim 10, wherein said cutting element is a blade extending in substantial alignment with said longitudinal axis.

12. The reaming head of claim 10, further including a rounded leading surface adjacent said cylindrical configuration.

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13. A method of eccentric reaming, comprising:

 providing a reaming head having an outer surface with a cylindrical portion and a cutting element positioned opposite said cylindrical portion and configured for cutting upon oscillatory motion;

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 inserting the reaming head into a bone opening;

 positioning said cylindrical portion adjacent tissue to be preserved;

positioning the cutting surface adjacent tissue to be removed;
oscillating the head of the reamer to cause the cutting surface to remove
tissue.

- 5 14. The method of claim 13, wherein said oscillating occurs over a range of 20
to 180 degrees.

15. The method of claim 14, wherein said oscillating occurs over a range of 80
to 120 degrees.

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16. The method of claim 13, wherein said inserting further includes positioning
a wire guide into the tissue and positioning the reamer over the wire guide prior to
said inserting.